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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/047,445	01/09/2002	Sachie Shizuka	81747.0211	1065

26021 7590 05/24/2005
HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.
500 S. GRAND AVENUE
SUITE 1900
LOS ANGELES, CA 90071-2611

EXAMINER

COTTINGHAM, JOHN R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2116

DATE MAILED: 05/24/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/047,445

Applicant(s)

SHIZUKA ET AL.

Examiner

John R. Cottingham

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 March 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-53 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 31-33 and 44-53 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 and 34-43 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 1/9/02.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicant's election without traverse of Group I in the reply filed on 3/14/05 is acknowledged.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.
3. Claims 2-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 2 recites the limitation "the data storage medium" in line 6. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1-30 and 34-43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hamilton II et al. U.S. Patent 6,633,977. Hamilton II et al. shows

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all the claimed subject matter of a device environment configuration system in Figures 1-13.

Regarding claim 1, a device environment configuration system, comprising: a device environment duplication means (computer 140) for automatically replicating device environment configuration information to a specific system, wherein the device environment configuration information specific information contained in system configuration information managed by an operating system (here it would UNIX as set out in Col. 2, lines 44-56) of a host computer development system used to develop a software application program to be run on the specific system to achieve specific functions. (col. 7, lines 29-67 set forth all the limitations of this claim)

Regarding claim 2, wherein the device environment duplication means comprises: a same settings generating means (the program generates the settings by copying the original settings as set forth in col. 7, lines 29-67) for generating settings identical to the device environment settings of the host computer development system based on the device environment settings of the development system recorded to the data storage medium (either a diskette, zip disk, hard drive or any other transferable medium, col. 8, lines 30-35); a system-specific settings generating means (perm.list, col. 11, lines 9-39) for generating system-specific settings that differ according to the specific system based on system configuration information managed by the host computer of the specific system; and a settings storage means 330 (either a diskette, zip disk, hard drive or any other transferable medium, col. 8, lines 30-35) for storing the same

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settings generated by the same settings generating means and the system-specific settings generated by the system-specific settings generating means in the system configuration information of the specific system as device environment settings for the specific system.

Regarding claim 3, wherein the same settings generating means comprises: means for using device environment configuration information of the development system recorded to the data storage medium as the same settings information without editing (col. 11, lines 9-39); and means (col. 7, lines 53-65) for obtaining the same settings information from the device environment configuration information of the development system recorded to the data storage medium, except for information that changes based on the hardware specifications of the host computer of the specific system.

Regarding claim 4, wherein the system-specific settings generating means comprises: an interface identification number detecting means for detecting the interface whereby a specific device in the specific system configuration is connected to the specific system and detecting the identification number of the detected interface. (this is inherent with the UNIX operating system to detect the hardware devices installed)

Regarding claim 5, wherein the interface detected by the interface identification number detecting means is a USB interface (USB interfaces are common in removable storage devices such as those listed in col. 8, lines 30-35).

Regarding claim 6, further comprising: a device environment configuration information storage means 330 (just a different sector of the storage unit) for

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recording and storing device environment configuration information in the development system configuration information managed by the operating system of the development system host computer to a data storage medium.

Regarding claim 7, wherein the device environment configuration information storage means 330 comprises: a data selection means for specifying one or a plurality of settings in the device environment configuration information to be recorded to the data storage medium; a device information detection means (the part of the program that looks at a specific area for the user information) for finding the settings selected by the data selection means from the device environment configuration information; and a device information recording means (330) for recording the settings detection means to the specific data storage found by the device information medium.

Regarding claim 8, wherein the settings specified by the data selection means is all information in the device environment configuration information. (col. 7, lines 28-67)

Regarding claim 9, wherein the settings specified by the data selection means is device information for one or a plurality of devices in the device environment. (col. 7, lines 28-67, it is inherent that most computers have multiple devices such as hard drives, cd-rom drives, floppy drives)

Regarding claim 10, wherein the settings specified by the data selection means is device information for a desired device in the device environment, and device information for all devices connected to the desired device by a specific connection method. (col. 7, lines 28-67)

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Regarding claim 11, a device environment configuration method, comprising: automatically replicating device environment configuration information to a specific system, wherein the device environment configuration information is specific information contained in system configuration information managed by an operating system (UNIX here) of a host computer development system used that develops a software application program to be run on the specific system to achieve specific functions. (col. 7, lines 28-67)

Regarding claim 12, wherein the device environment duplication step comprises: (a) generating settings identical to the device environment settings of the host computer development system based on the device environment settings of the development system recorded to the data storage medium; (b) generating system-specific settings that differ according to the specific system based on system configuration information managed by the host computer of the specific system; and (c) storing the same settings generated by step (a) and the system-specific settings generated by step (b) in the system configuration information of the specific system as device environment settings for the specific system. (col. 7, lines 28-67 through col. 8, lines 1-66)

Regarding claim 13, wherein generating settings identical to the device environment settings of the host computer development system based on the device environment settings of the development system recorded to the data storage medium (this happens during the transfer of the data, col. 7, lines 28-52), comprises: using device environment configuration information of the development system recorded to the data storage medium as the same settings

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information without editing; and using the device environment configuration information of the development system recorded to the data storage medium as the same settings information, except for information that changes based on the hardware specifications of the host computer of the specific system. (See Figure 7)

Regarding claim 14, wherein generating system-specific settings that differ according to the specific system based on system configuration information managed by the host computer of the specific system, comprises: detecting an interface whereby a specific device in the specific system configuration is connected to the specific system; and detecting the identification number of the detected interface. (See Figure 7, 725)

Regarding claim 15, wherein the detected interface is a USB interface. (USB interfaces are common in removable storage devices such as those listed in col. 8, lines 30-35).

Regarding claim 16, further comprising: (d) recording and storing device environment configuration information in the development system configuration information managed by the operating system of the development system host computer to a data storage medium. (Figure 6, 640)

Regarding claim 17, wherein recording and storing device environment configuration information in the development system configuration information managed by the operating system of the development system host computer to a data storage medium, comprises: specifying one or a plurality of settings in the device environment configuration information to be recorded to the data storage

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medium; finding the settings from the device environment configuration information; and recording the settings to the specific data storage medium. (see figure 6)

Regarding claim 18, wherein specifying one or a plurality of settings in the device environment configuration information to be recorded to the data storage medium, comprises: specifying all information in the device environment configuration information to be recorded to the data storage medium. (see Figure 7, 710, 720, 725, 730, ...790)

Regarding claim 19, wherein specifying one or a plurality of settings in the device environment configuration information to be recorded to the data storage medium, comprises: specifying device information for one or a plurality of devices in the device environment configuration information to be recorded to the data storage medium. (see Figure 7, 710, 720, 725, 730, ...790)

Regarding claim 20, wherein specifying one or a plurality of settings in the device environment configuration information to be recorded to the data storage medium, comprises specifying device information for a desired device in the device environment, and device information for all devices connected to the desired device by a specific connection method to be recorded to the data storage medium.(See Figure 6)

Regarding claim 21, a computer program product that executes a device environment configuration method, the computer program product comprising a data storage medium having computer-readable program code 610 embodied therein, the computer program product comprising: computer-readable program

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code 610 that is configured to automatically replicate device environment configuration information to a specific system, wherein the device environment configuration information is specific information contained in system configuration information managed by an operating system of a host computer development system used to develop a software application program to be run on the specific system to achieve specific functions. (see figure 6)

Regarding claim 22, wherein the computer-readable program code 610 that is configured to automatically replicate device environment configuration information to a specific system (see Figure 6), comprises: (a) computer-readable program code that is configured to generate settings identical to the device environment settings of the host computer development system based on the device environment settings of the development system recorded to the data storage medium (this happens in step 640); (b) computer-readable program code that is configured to generate system-specific settings that differ according to the specific system based on system configuration information managed by the host computer of the specific system; and (c) computer-readable program code that is configured to store the same settings generated by step (a) and the system-specific settings generated by step (b) in the system configuration information of the specific system as device environment settings for the specific system. (See figure 4, and col. 7, lines 28-67)

Regarding claim 23, wherein computer-readable program code 610 that is configured to generate settings identical to the device environment settings of the host computer development system based on the device environment settings of

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the development system recorded to the data storage medium, comprises:
computer-readable program code 610 that is configured to use device
environment configuration information of the development system recorded to the
data storage medium 330 as the same settings information without editing; and
computer-readable program code that is configured to use the device
environment configuration information of the development system recorded to the
data storage medium as the same settings information, except for information
that changes based on the hardware specifications of the host computer of the
specific system. (col. 7, lines 28-67 through col. 8, lines 1-66)

Regarding claim 24, wherein computer-readable program code 610 that is
configured to generate system-specific settings that differ according the specific
system based on system configuration information managed by the host
computer of the specific system, comprises: computer-readable program code
610 that is configured to detect an interface whereby a specific device in the
specific system configuration is connected to the specific system, and detect the
identification number of the detected interface. (see Figure 7)

Regarding claim 25, wherein the detected interface is a USB interface.
(USB interfaces are common in removable storage devices such as those listed
in col. 8, lines 30-35).

Regarding claim 26, further comprising: (d) computer-readable program
code that is configured to record and store device environment configuration
information in the development system configuration information managed by the

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operating system of the development system host computer to a data storage medium. (see Figure 7)

Regarding claim 27, wherein computer-readable program code 610 that is configured to record and store device environment configuration information in the development system configuration information managed by the operating system of the development system host computer to a data storage medium, comprises: computer-readable program code that is configured to specify one or a plurality of settings in the device environment configuration information to be recorded to the data storage medium; computer-readable program code that is configured to find the settings from the device environment configuration information; and computer-readable program code that is configured to record the settings to the specific data storage medium. (see figures 6-7)

Regarding claim 28, wherein computer-readable program code that is configured to specify one or a plurality of settings in the device environment configuration information to be recorded to the data storage medium 330, comprises: computer-readable program code that is configured to specify all information in the device environment configuration information to be recorded to the data storage medium 330.

Regarding claim 29, wherein computer-readable program code 610 that is configured to specify one or a plurality of settings in the device environment configuration information to be recorded to the data storage medium, comprises: computer-readable program code 610 that is configured to specify device

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information for one or a plurality of devices in the device environment configuration information to be recorded to the data storage medium 330.

Regarding claim 30, wherein computer-readable program code 610 that is configured to specify one or a plurality of settings in the device environment configuration information to be recorded to the data storage medium 330, comprises: computer-readable program code 610 that is configured to specify device information for a desired device in the device environment, and device information for all devices connected to the desired device by a specific connection method to be recorded to the data storage medium. (col. 7, lines 28-67)

Regarding claim 34, a device environment configuration system, comprising: a device environment duplication unit 610 adapted to automatically replicate device environment configuration information to a specific system, wherein the device environment configuration information is specific information contained in system configuration information managed by an operating system (UNIX) of a host computer development system used to develop a software application program to be run on the specific system to achieve specific functions.

Regarding claim 35, wherein the device environment duplication unit comprises: a same settings generating unit 420 adapted to generate settings identical to the device environment settings of the host computer development system based on the device environment settings of the development system recorded to the data storage medium 330; a system-specific settings generating

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unit adapted to generate system-specific settings that differ according to the specific system based on system configuration information managed by the host computer of the specific system; and a settings storage unit 200 adapted to store the same settings generated by the same settings generating unit and the system-specific settings generated by the system-specific settings generating unit in the system configuration information of the specific system as device environment settings for the specific system. (col. 7, lines 28-67)

Regarding claim 36, wherein the same settings generating unit, comprises: a first unit adapted to use device environment configuration information of the development system recorded to the data storage medium 330 as the same settings information without editing; and a second unit adapted to obtain the same settings information from the device environment configuration information of the development system recorded to the data storage medium, except for information that changes based on the hardware specifications of the host computer of the specific system. (See figures 4-7) (each unit is represented by each separate sub program)

Regarding claim 37, wherein the system-specific settings generating unit, comprises: an interface identification number detecting unit adapted to detect the interface whereby a specific device in the specific system configuration is connected to the specific system and to detect the identification number of the detected interface. (this is inherent with the UNIX operating system to detect the hardware devices installed)

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Regarding claim 38, wherein the interface detected by the interface identification number detecting unit is a USB interface. (USB interfaces are common in removable storage devices such as those listed in col. 8, lines 30-35).

Regarding claim 39, further comprising: a device environment configuration information storage unit adapted to record and store device environment configuration information in the development system configuration information managed by the operating system of the development system host computer to a data storage medium. (col. 7, lines 28-67)

Regarding claim 40, wherein the device environment configuration information storage unit comprises: a data selection unit 510 adapted to specify one or a plurality of settings in the device environment configuration information to be recorded to the data storage medium; a device information detection unit 505 adapted to find the settings selected by the data selection unit from the device environment configuration information; and a device information recording unit adapted to record the settings found by the device information detection unit to the specific data storage medium 330.

Regarding claim 41, wherein the settings specified by the data selection unit is all information in the device environment configuration information. (col. 7-8)

Regarding claim 42, wherein the settings specified by the data selection unit is device information for one or a plurality of devices in the device environment. (see figure 7)

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Regarding claim 43, wherein the settings specified by the data selection unit is device information for a desired device in the device environment, and device information for all devices connected to the desired device by a specific connection method. (col. 7-8)

Conclusion


6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Hamilton II, et al. U.S. Patent Application Publication 2002/0147938 and Torret al. U.S. Patent Application Publication 2003/0149830 show similar inventions.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John R. Cottingham whose telephone number is (571) 272-7079. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday, alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynne Browne can be reached on (571)272-3670. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



John R. Cottingham
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2116

jrc